

Amendment to the Specification:

Please amend Paragraph No. [0056] of the substitute specification as follows:

[0056] The blanks are in practice usually made of a metal oxide powder of the group consisting of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$  and zirconia oxide mixed crystal  $\text{Zr}_{1-x}\text{Me}_x\text{O}_2 - (\frac{4n}{2})_x$  where Me is a metal which is present in oxide form as a bi-, tri- or tetravalent cation and stabilises the tetragonal and/or cubic phase of the zirconia oxide. In the formula for the zirconia oxide mixed crystal  $n = 2, 3$  or  $4$  and  ~~$0 \leq x \leq 1$~~   $0 \leq x \leq 1$ .